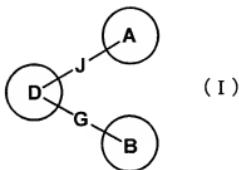


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



wherein ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

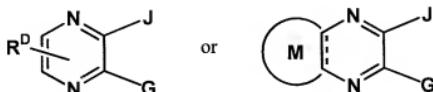
J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein



is



wherein R^D represents a substituent of ring D (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8) $-CONR^7R^8$, (9) $-COOR^9$, (10)

Cyc1 or (11) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -CONR⁷R⁸, (b) -COOR⁹, (c) -OR¹⁰, (d) -NR¹¹R¹², (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1;

R⁷ and R⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) -OR¹³ or (7) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -OR¹³, (b) -NR¹⁴R¹⁵, (c) -NR¹⁶COR¹⁷, (d) halogen, (e) CF₃, and (f) Cyc2; or

R⁷ and R⁸ are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R¹³ to R¹⁷ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R⁹ to R¹² each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C₃₋₁₅ monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R¹⁸.

R¹⁸ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR¹⁹, (10) -SR²⁰, (11) -NR²¹R²²,

(12) -COR²³, (13) -COOR²⁴, (14) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (15) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C₁₋₈alkyl, C₂₋₈alkenyl or C₂₋₈alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR¹⁹, (g) -SR²⁰, (h) -NR²¹R²², (i) -COR²³, (j) -COOR²⁴, (k) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (l) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, and (m) Cyc2;

R¹⁹ to R²⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C₁₋₈alkyl, C₂₋₈alkenyl or C₂₋₈alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R²⁹;

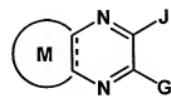
R²⁹ represents (1) C₁₋₈alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR¹⁰⁰;

R¹⁰⁰ represents C₁₋₈alkyl;

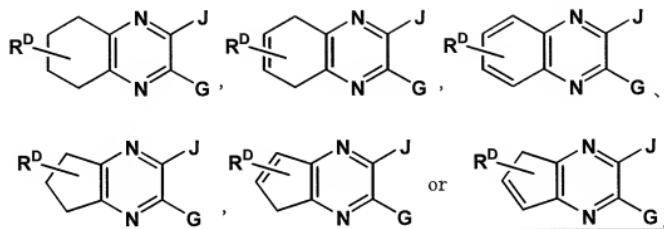
— represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

wherein



is



ring A is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring which may be substituted with (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR³¹, (10) -NR³²R³³, (11) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR³¹, (g) -NR³²COR³³, (h) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, and (i) Cyc3;

R³¹ to R³⁵ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) -OR³⁶ and (c) -NR³⁷R³⁸;

R³⁶ to R³⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) -OR³⁹, or (4) -NR⁴⁰R⁴¹;

R³⁹ to R⁴¹ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl;

Cyc3 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring which may be substituted with (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR⁴², (10) -NR⁴³R⁴⁴, (11) -SR¹⁰¹, (12) -SO₂R¹⁰², (13) -COR¹⁰³, (14) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (b) -NR¹⁰⁵COR¹⁰⁶, and (c) Cyc2;

R⁴² to R⁴⁴ and R¹⁰¹ to R¹⁰⁶ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR¹⁰⁷, or (5) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R¹⁰⁷ represents C₁₋₈ alkyl-C₂₋₈ monocyclic-carboyclic ring which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;

J is



wherein R³ and R⁴ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain; and

G is -NR^{T1}-SO₂-

wherein R^{T1} represents hydrogen, C₁₋₈ alkyl—which may be substituted, C₂₋₈ alkenyl—which may be substituted, C₂₋₈ alkynyl—which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group—which may be substituted;
or a salt thereof.

Claims 2-24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R³ and R⁴ each independently represents hydrogen or methyl.

26. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein E is a bond.

27. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein E is a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain.

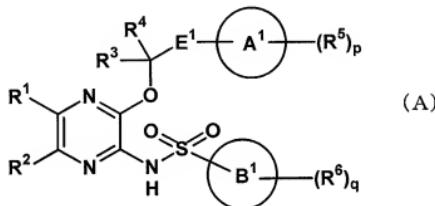
28. (original): The compound according to claim 27, wherein E is C₁₋₄ alkylene or C₁₋₃ alkyleneoxy.

29. (original): The compound according to claim 28, wherein E is methylene or methylenoxy.

Claims 30-31. (canceled).

32. (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein G is -NH-SO₂⁻.

33. (currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a compound of formula (A):



wherein R¹ and R² each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8) -CONR⁷R⁸, (9) -COOR⁹, (10) Cyc1 or (11) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -CONR⁷R⁸, (b) -COOR⁹, (c) -OR¹⁰, (d) -NR¹¹R¹², (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1; or

R¹ and R² are taken together to represent C₃₋₄ alkylene, -CH=CH-CH₂-, -CH₂-CH=CH-, -CH=CH-CH=CH- or -CH=CH-CH₂-CH₂-, wherein the carbocyclic ring to be formed may be substituted with C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl, C₂₋₈ alkynyl, C₁₋₈ alkoxy, halogen, cyano, nitro or hydroxyl, wherein R⁷ and R⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) -OR¹³ or (7) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -OR¹³, (b) -NR¹⁴R¹⁵, (c) -NR¹⁶COR¹⁷, (d) halogen, (e) CF₃, and (f) Cyc2; or R⁷ and R⁸ are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an

other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R¹³ to R¹⁷ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R⁹ to R¹² each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C₃₋₁₅ monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R¹⁸;

R¹⁸ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR¹⁹, (10) -SR²⁰, (11) -NR²¹R²², (12) -COR²³, (13) -COOR²⁴, (14) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (15) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR¹⁹, (g) -SR²⁰, (h) -NR²¹R²², (i) -COR²³, (j) -COOR²⁴, (k) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (l) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, and (m) Cyc2;

R¹⁹ to R²⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R²⁹;

R²⁹ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR¹⁰⁰,

R¹⁰⁰ represents C₁₋₈ alkyl; ;

R³ and R⁴ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl;

E¹ represents a bond or C₁₋₆ alkylene, wherein a carbon atom in the alkylene group may be substituted with oxygen, sulfur, or -NR³⁰-;

R³⁰ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) phenyl, or (5) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with phenyl;

ring A¹ is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring represents a C₃₋₁₅ monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

R⁵ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR³¹, (10) -NR³²R³³, (11) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR³¹, (g) -NR³²COR³³, (h) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, and (i) Cyc3;

R³¹ to R³⁵ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) -OR³⁶ and (c) -NR³⁷R³⁸;

R³⁶ to R³⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) -OR³⁹, or (4) -NR⁴⁰R⁴¹;

R³⁹ to R⁴¹ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl;

Cyc3 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B¹ is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring; represents a C₃₋₈ monoeyclic carboeyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monoeyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

R⁶ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR⁴², (10) -NR⁴³R⁴⁴, (11) -SR¹⁰¹, (12) -SO₂R¹⁰², (13) -COR¹⁰³, (14) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (b) -NR¹⁰⁵COR¹⁰⁶, and (c) Cyc2;

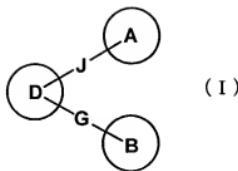
R⁴² to R⁴⁴ and R¹⁰¹ to R¹⁰⁶ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR¹⁰⁷, or (5) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R¹⁰⁷ represents C₁₋₈ alkyl; and

p and q each independently represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 5.

34. (withdrawn): A prodrug for the compound according to claim 1.

35. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of formula (I):



wherein ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

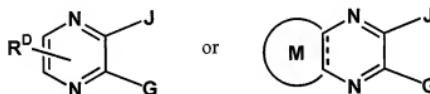
J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein



is



wherein R^D represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8) $-CONR^7R^8$, (9) $-COOR^9$, (10) Cyc1 or (11) C_{1-8} alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) $-CONR^7R^8$, (b) $-COOR^9$, (c) $-OR^{10}$, (d) $-NR^{11}R^{12}$, (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1;

R^7 and R^8 each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) $-OR^{13}$ or (7) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) $-OR^{13}$, (b) $-NR^{14}R^{15}$, (c) $-NR^{16}COR^{17}$, (d) halogen, (e) CF_3 , and (f) Cyc2; or

R⁷ and R⁸ are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R¹³ to R¹⁷ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R⁹ to R¹² each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C₃₋₁₅ monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R¹⁸;

R¹⁸ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR¹⁹, (10) -SR²⁰, (11) -NR²¹R²², (12) -COR²³, (13) -COOR²⁴, (14) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (15) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR¹⁹, (g) -SR²⁰, (h) -NR²¹R²², (i) -COR²³, (j) -COOR²⁴, (k) -NR²⁵COR²⁶, (l) -CONR²⁷R²⁸, and (m) Cyc2;

R¹⁹ to R²⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R²⁹:

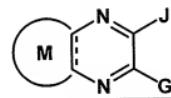
R²⁹ represents (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) -OR¹⁰⁰,

R¹⁰⁰ represents C₁₋₈ alkyl a substituent of ring D;

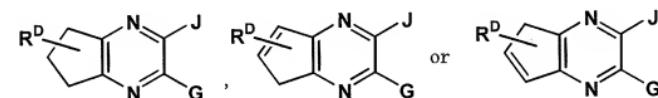
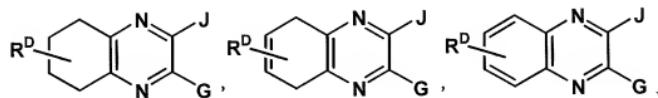
---- represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

wherein



is



ring A is a benzene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring, a benzodioxane ring, a cyclopropane ring, a cyclopentane ring, a furan ring, a thiophene ring, a tetrahydrofuran ring, a piperidine ring or a morpholine ring which may be substituted with (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro,

(7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR³¹, (10) -NR³²R³³, (11) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) -OR³¹, (g) -NR³²COR³³, (h) -NR³⁴COR³⁵, and (i) Cyc3;

R³¹ to R³⁵ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (4) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) -OR³⁶ and (c) -NR³⁷R³⁸;

R³⁶ to R³⁸ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) -OR³⁹, or (4) -NR⁴⁰R⁴¹;

R³⁹ to R⁴¹ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl;

Cyc3 represents a C₃₋₈ monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B is a benzene ring, a pyridine ring, a thiophene ring, a naphthalene ring, a pyrrole ring, a pyrazole ring, an isoxazole ring, a thiazole ring, a benzothiophene ring, an imidazole ring or a furan ring which may be substituted with (1) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (2) C₂₋₈ alkenyl, (3) C₂₋₈ alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) -OR⁴², (10) -NR⁴³R⁴⁴ (11) -SR¹⁰¹, (12) -SO₂R¹⁰², (13) -COR¹⁰³, (14) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl or C₂₋₈ alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -COOR¹⁰⁴, (b) -NR¹⁰⁵COR¹⁰⁶, and (c) Cyc2;

R⁴² to R⁴⁴ and R¹⁰¹ to R¹⁰⁶ each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C₁₋₈ alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) -COR¹⁰⁷, or (5) C₁₋₈ alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R¹⁰⁷ represents C₁₋₈ alkyl-a C₃₋₈ monoeyelic carboeyelic ring which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heteroeyelic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;

J is



wherein R³ and R⁴ each independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₈ alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain;

G is -NR^{T1}-SO₂-

wherein R^{T1} represents hydrogen, C₁₋₈ alkyl-which may be substituted, C₂₋₈ alkenyl-which may be substituted, C₂₋₈ alkynyl-which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group which may be substituted;

or a salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 36-43. (canceled).

44. (withdrawn): A method for treating CCR4-mediated diseases in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

Claims 45-49. (canceled).